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J.A.B.

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Insect Control
R-4

October 31, 1936.

AIR MAIL

Chief, Forest Service,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Mr. Carter's letter of October 22.

In order that you may keep currently informed on the progress of active insect control operations as well as planned future work, we shall endeavor in this letter to give you a concise picture of the present situation.

Following your allotment to us of insect survey funds for fiscal year 1937, field parties were organized and the scheduled areas covered in the time planned. During at least a part of these surveys Messrs. Evenden and Baumhofer were on the ground, each in his respective territory. Mr. Baumhofer submitted memoranda covering his trip to the Region largely because of the new and interesting problems that have developed on some of the Forests where insect control is being carried on. Mr. Evenden did not this year prepare any memoranda on his trips. His cases this fall did not, we feel, make this necessary as no unusual problems were encountered which required special consideration.

In our letter of September 30 full information resulting from surveys was not available. However, in order not to delay the possible fall work we made here the best estimates possible under the circumstances. The estimates for the Powell, Dixie, Uinta, and Wasatch were considered jointly with Mr. Baumhofer just before he left the Region. The development of control work in the field was also discussed with him. The prompt response of your office to our request for an allotment of \$8,800 control funds made possible the immediate distribution of these funds to the Forest and the beginning of control work.

Chief, F. S.

Our September 30 letter indicated the consideration that was given to the Wyoming control work by Mr. Evenden. Some attached related correspondence between Mr. Evenden and this office relative to the Wyoming project will further amplify the usual character of our joint and cooperative relationships on all insect control problems with field representatives of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.

The Wyoming control project was begun in a small preparatory way with CCC and ERA during the latter part of September. After the S. & E. funds were allotted to that Forest the control crews were augmented materially on a scale which would permit completion of the entire project this fall, weather conditions permitting. We are attaching hereto a Wyoming map showing the data on the survey results and planned control operations. The summary sheets should be of further help in your analysis of this situation. The advice and suggestions contained in Mr. Evenden's letters relative to the limber pine type are being followed. Also small CCC crews are doing what amounts to a "mop up" job on the east side of Green River.

The Powell Forest continued their survey after Mr. Baumhofer's departure and began active control operations on or about October 12. ERA and S. & E. funds are being used largely. The completed survey shows a total of 1,500 trees estimated instead of the 400 given you in our letter of September 30. In addition the Park Service has found 681 trees on their land. The Supervisor estimates that the total cost of this project on National Forest land will be about \$6,000 or in other words the \$800 requested for the Powell will not be sufficient. ERA workers and funds are being used largely with S. & E. funds providing the overhead and such items as team hire and equipment. It will likely not be possible to complete this project this fall, although it should be possible to continue work until quite late. In addition, the S. & E. and all ERA now available it is estimated that a satisfactory completion of the Powell job this fall and next spring will require \$4,000 more S. & E. funds.

Supervisor Folster advises that the Park Service plans to do all control work on their lands next spring. They plan on doing this work with a CCC camp.

The figures for the Dixie given you previously have remained unchanged. Control work started during the first week in October with ERA and has been continued on that basis ever since. Work will continue here as late as weather conditions permit. It is not expected, however, that this season will see the completion of the job. Some work will remain for spring. Since present work is done largely with ERA the main portion of the Dixie S. & E. allotment will be saved for spring work.

Chief, F. S.

The Wasatch job resolved itself into exactly the size we had anticipated earlier. The 500 trees in Iron Mine Creek are being treated now and this job will be finished within a few days. This same crew will then proceed to the Tabby Mountain area on the Uinta and that area will also be cleaned up this fall. Sufficient funds are available to complete these two projects. The crews and overhead are all thoroughly experienced so that this effort should see the completion of control work on the Wasatch and Uinta. Barring unforeseen developments it is reasonable to suppose that this will prove to be the case. The work on the Wasatch-Uinta is being financed entirely with S. & E.

A copy of the Wasatch survey report and map is attached. You will note that other work is being done on the Wasatch such as the American Fork area where we treated around 5,000 trees during the early months of 1936. This work was done largely on our own initiative and under urgent requests of the Park Service who justly feared that the Timpanogos Monument would suffer greatly from continued losses of timber from the white fir beetle attacks. The Park Service had no funds or labor available to do the work and since we did the project was undertaken. American Fork and Mill Creek Canyons are highly valuable recreational areas and it is only for this reason that control work on the white fir beetle was considered justifiable. Contrary to our expectations and those of Messrs. Beal and Baumhofer, the control work done in American Fork Canyon seems to have given at least good temporary results. The Aspen Grove project which is in that same general region should produce comparable results. All the work on the Wasatch other than the control of the mountain pine beetle on Iron Mine Creek is being done with CCC or ERA funds and labor.

The fall survey on the Ashley developed some situations which need continued attention. The Ashley survey report and map which are attached will give you a picture of conditions on that Forest. These developments on this Forest were unknown to us at the time of Mr. Baumhofer's visit. We were unable to contact the survey party so he could not gain any first hand information. Mr. Baumhofer did, however, cover the Ashley quite thoroughly in the fall of 1935. Fall control work on the Ashley has been in progress in some of the areas recommended for treatment and preparations are now under way to have crews at work on all areas within a few days. It is hoped that the mountain pine beetle areas in Henry's Fork and near Moon Lake will be cleaned up this fall. The Ashley is doing most of its work with ERA and CCC except for some S. & E. money for overhead taken from the Tabby Mountain job where it was not needed.

It is very obvious to us that the complexities, ramifications, and the wide-spread condition of Region 4 insect problems makes it physically

Chief, F. S.

impossible for the men from the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine to visit and pass upon all cases and problems that may arise from time to time. It is true that it has been and will continue to be the policy to refer new and initial cases to the Bureau for study and recommendations as for example, the Dixie and Powell problems. However, projects of older standing such as the Ashley-Wasatch-Uinta, where the established objective is to accomplish reductions to endemic conditions, would appear to need little or no recurrent examinations, inspections, and recommendations except when desired by the Forest Service. In these areas there are generally available men who have had a great deal of "bug" experience and who are capable of carrying on all phases of the work. We do not, however, intend to intimate in the foregoing discussion that we do not welcome and need inspection from the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine in carrying on effective control work and we have always invited their official and professional opinions and suggestions.

We fully appreciate the impressions that may be created by incidents such as Tabby Mountain and the Dixie which you mention. In the Dixie case there is a chance for a misinterpretation of the situation mentioned by Mr. Baumhofer. The insect infested trees that were cut and left untreated were far from the main center of infestation, perhaps 14 miles, and in a type where very scattered attacks no doubt will always be present. If the sawmill men had not cut the trees they would not have been touched otherwise by any control measures. The Tabby Mountain case has been somewhat of a puzzle to us. This area has not been previously examined by entomologists. At the conclusion of control operations last spring Ranger Adair who personally directed the work said that a particularly careful job was done and that he expected no further work would be necessary. There is no doubt that this area presents particular problems in spotting and treating whose lack of proper recognition and solution has resulted in repeated reinfestations. The experience so far gained in the Tabby Mountain operations should result in a much better job this time.

Results on the Minidoka operations, survey notes and contemplated follow-up should prove instructive to you and we are enclosing the material containing the necessary information.

To summarize the data presented above:

Chief, F. S.

| Forest | Est. New Attacks to be Treated | | | Funds Available and Needed | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|---|
| | Mtn. Pine: Beetle | Black Hills: Beetle | Total Est.: Cost | CCC to be Used | ERA Avail- able | S&E on Hand | Addition- al S&E Required | |
| | : | : | : | : | : | : | : | : |
| Ashley | 700 | 300 | \$ 2,600 | \$ 300 | \$ 1,800 | \$ 500 | - | |
| Uinta | 400 | - | 500 | - | - | 500 | - | |
| Wasatch | 575 | - | 1,000 | 200 | - | 800 | - | |
| Wyoming (1) | 4,540 | - | 8,500 | 2,500 | 1,000 | 5,000 | - | |
| Minidoka | 1,000 | - | 1,500 | 500 | 1,000 | - | - | |
| Dixie | - | 400 | 1,800 | 200 | 400 | 1,200 | - | |
| Powell | - | 1500 | 6,000 | - | 1,200 | 800 | \$4,000 | |
| Total | 7,215 | 2200 | \$21,900 | \$3,700 | \$ 5,400 | \$8,800 | \$4,000 | |

(1) The Wyoming total includes 700 trees on Bridger side and all the new attacks on the Middle Piney, North Piney, South Cottonwood, North Cottonwood, and Beavers drainages. The previous estimates of 2,500 trees included only LaBarge Creek and South Piney. The above figures do not include the limber pine new attacks.

Among the enclosures you will find in duplicate maps of all the Forests concerned together with survey reports where these are available. Certain correspondence involving some of the above projects which may be of interest to you is also enclosed.

It is hoped that the above information will give you the desired picture of the entire situation. We wish also to emphasize that our relationships with field representatives of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine have always been mutually, we hope, highly satisfactory and hope that these may continue to be so in the future.

Very truly yours,

R. H. RUTLEDGE, Regional Forester,

Encl.

By (Sgd.) JOHN N. KINNEY, Acting.